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PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK.

LOUISIANA—NEW ORLEANS—PLAGUE ERADICATION.

The following report of plague-eradication work at New Orleans for the week ended February 26, 1916, was received from Surg. Creel, of the United States Public Health Service, in charge of the work:

OUTGOING QUARANTINE.		LABORATORY OPERATIONS—continued.	
Vessels fumigated with sulphur.....	5	Rodents received by species—Continued.	
Vessels fumigated with cyanide gas.....	23	<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	133
Sulphur used (pounds).....	390	<i>Mus musculus</i>	7,066
Cyanide used in cyanide-gas fumigation (pounds).....	916	Wood rats.....	151
Sulphuric acid used in cyanide-gas fumigation (pints).....	1,374	Muskrats.....	13
Clean bills of health issued.....	34	Putrid (included in enumeration of species).....	62
Foul bills of health issued.....	8	Total rodents received at laboratory.....	8,481
		Rodents examined.....	2,047
		Rats suspected of plague.....	129
		Plague rats confirmed.....	1
FIELD OPERATIONS.		PLAGUE RAT.	
Rodents trapped.....	8,701	Case No. 279:	
Premises inspected.....	7,220	Address, 2400 Tulane Avenue.	
Notices served.....	590	Captured, Feb. 3, 1916.	
Poisons placed.....	100	Diagnosis confirmed, Feb. 21, 1916.	
Garbage cans installed.....	72	Treatment of premises: Intensive trapping; completion of rat proofing.	
BUILDINGS RAT PROOFED.		PLAGUE STATUS TO FEB. 26, 1916.	
By elevation.....	161	Last case of human plague, Sept. 8, 1915.	
By marginal concrete wall.....	146	Last case of rodent plague, Feb. 21, 1916.	
By concrete floor and wall.....	179	Total number of rodents captured to Feb. 26.....	624,445
By minor repairs.....	441	Total number of rodents examined to Feb. 26.....	330,90
Total buildings rat proofed.....	927	Total cases of rodent plague to Feb. 26, by species:	
Concrete laid (square yards).....	5,341	<i>Mus musculus</i>	6
Premises, planking and shed flooring removed.....	165	<i>Mus rattus</i>	18
Buildings demolished.....	162	<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	11
Total buildings rat proofed to date (abated).....	104,480	<i>Mus norvegicus</i>	244
LABORATORY OPERATIONS.		Total rodent cases to Feb. 26, 1916.....	279
Rodents received by species:			
<i>Mus rattus</i>	106		
<i>Mus norvegicus</i>	1,012		

Relative Efficiency of Poisoning and Trapping.

Surg. Creel, of the United States Public Health Service, reports the results of two tests of the relative efficiency of trapping and poisoning as methods of rodent extermination. He states that fixed areas were selected, and unusual precautions were taken that the poison should be placed in a very efficient manner. The same men who placed the poison did the trapping.

AREA BOUNDED BY CLAIBORNE, BAYONNE, JULIA, AND CANAL STREETS.

In this area during the two weeks from December 23, 1915, to January 6, 1916, 554 rodents were trapped—66 *Mus norvegicus*, 2 *Mus alexandrinus*, and 486 *Mus musculus*.

During 19 days, from January 12 to January 31, 1916, 16,250 poison baits were

¹ Indicates number of rodents, the tissues of which were inoculated into guinea pigs. Most of them showed on necropsy only evidence of recent inflammatory process; practically none presented gross lesions characteristic of plague infection.

placed in the area—4,196 arsenic baits and 12,054 phosphorus baits. The entire area was covered twice. During this time 47 rodents, whose death might be attributed to the poisoning, were found dead—9 *Mus norvegicus* and 38 *Mus musculus*.

During 7 days, from January 31 to February 6, 1916, the traps, which had been removed before the poison baits were placed, were again put into use, and 297 rodents were taken—38 *Mus norvegicus* and 259 *Mus alexandrinus*.

During the 14 days from February 14 to February 28, 1916, 738 rodents were trapped—120 *Mus norvegicus*, 1 *Mus rattus*, 4 *Mus alexandrinus*, and 613 *Mus musculus*.

ILLINOIS CENTRAL GRAIN ELEVATORS AND RAILROAD YARDS.

Between December 24, 1915, and January 7, 1916, inclusive, 7 rats and 237 mice were caught and 2 rats and 10 mice were found dead.

During the following two weeks, between January 8 and January 23, 1916, 3,665 pieces of poison were distributed. Of these, 774 pieces were missing, and the results of these operations were 1 rat and 63 mice found dead.

Between January 24 and February 6, 1916 (two weeks subsequent to poisoning operations), 16 rats and 119 mice were caught and 3 rats and 10 mice were found dead.

SIGNIFICANCE OF RESULTS.

The significant point in these operations seems to be the increased number of rats trapped after the cessation of poisoning operations.

WASHINGTON—SEATTLE—PLAGUE ERADICATION.

The following report of plague-eradication work at Seattle for the week ended February 19, 1916, was received from Surg. Lloyd, of the United States Public Health Service, in charge of the work:

RAT PROOFING.		WATER FRONT.	
New buildings reinspected.....	56	Vessels inspected and histories recorded.....	9
New buildings reinspected, concrete foundations.....	55	Vessels fumigated.....	1
New buildings, basements concreted (4,102 square feet).....	5	Sulphur used, pounds.....	350
Sidewalks concreted (square feet).....	240	New rat guards installed.....	14
Total concrete laid, new sidewalk (square feet).....	4,342	Defective rat guards repaired.....	26
New premises rat proofed, concrete.....	5	Fumigation certificates issued.....	1
Old buildings inspected.....	8	Port sanitary statements issued.....	51
Buildings razed.....	4	The usual day and night patrol was maintained to enforce rat guarding and fending.	
LABORATORY AND RODENT OPERATIONS.		MISCELLANEOUS WORK.	
Dead rodents received.....	24	Rat-proofing notices sent to contractors, new buildings.....	6
Rodents trapped and killed.....	392	Letters sent in re rat complaints.....	4
Total.....	416	Lectures on sanitary measures.....	1
Rodents examined for plague infection.....	316	RODENTS EXAMINED IN EVERETT.	
Rodents proven plague infected.....	None.	Mus norvegicus trapped.....	35
Poison distributed, pounds.....	72	Mus norvegicus found dead.....	1
Bodies examined for plague infection.....	3	Mus rattus trapped.....	1
Bodies found plague infected.....	None.	Mus alexandrinus trapped.....	3
CLASSIFICATION OF RODENTS.		Mus alexandrinus found dead.....	1
Mus rattus.....	5	Total.....	41
Mus alexandrinus.....	72	Rodents examined for plague infection.....	39
Mus norvegicus.....	269	Rodents proven plague infected.....	None.
Mus musculus.....	69	RAT-PROOFING OPERATIONS IN EVERETT.	
Mountain beaver.....	1	New buildings inspected.....	9
		New buildings concrete foundations.....	9

HAWAII—PLAGUE PREVENTION.

The following reports of plague-prevention work in Hawaii were received from Surg. Trotter, of the United States Public Health Service:

Honolulu.

WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 19, 1916.

Total number of rats and mongoose taken...	373	Average number of traps set daily.....	984
Rats trapped.....	369	Cost per rat destroyed.....cents..	21½
Mongoose trapped.....	4	Last case rat plague, Aiea, 9 miles from Honolulu,	
Examined microscopically.....	309	Apr. 12, 1910.	
Showing plague infection.....	None.	Last case human plague, Honolulu, July 12, 1910.	
Classification of rats trapped:		Last case rat plague, Paauhau, Hawaii, Jan. 18, 1916.	
<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	192	Last case human plague, Paauhau Plantation,	
<i>Mus musculus</i>	72	Hawaii, Dec. 16, 1915.	
<i>Mus norvegicus</i>	68		
<i>Mus rattus</i>	37		

Hilo.

WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 5, 1916.

Rats and mongoose taken.....	2,968	Rats and mongoose plague infected.....	None.
Rats trapped.....	2,914	Classification of rats trapped and found dead:	
Rats found dead.....	1	<i>Mus norvegicus</i>	428
Mongoose taken.....	53	<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	382
Rats and mongoose examined macroscopically.....	2,968	<i>Mus rattus</i>	909
Rats and mongoose examined microscopically.....	2	<i>Mus musculus</i>	1,196

WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 12, 1916.

Rats and mongoose taken.....	2,872	Classification of rats trapped and found dead:	
Rats trapped.....	2,812	<i>Mus norvegicus</i>	481
Rats found dead.....	8	<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	402
Mongoose taken.....	52	<i>Mus rattus</i>	822
Rats and mongoose examined macroscopically.....	2,872	<i>Mus musculus</i>	1,115
Rats and mongoose examined microscopically.....	1	Last case of rat plague, Paauhau Sugar Co., Paauhau, Jan. 18, 1916.	
Rats and mongoose plague infected.....	None	Last case of human plague, Paauhau, Dec. 16, 1915.	

PORTO RICO—PLAGUE PREVENTION.

The following table shows the number of rats and mice examined in Porto Rico for plague infection during the two weeks ended February 25, 1916. No plague infection was found.

Place.	Rats.	Mice.
San Juan.....	133	9
Puerta de Tierra.....	79	2
Sanurce.....	132	1